

#ESSENTIALSERVICES

'A VERY STRESSFUL TIME'

SOCIAL DISTANCING HAS **BIG IMPACT ON HALTON** WEDDINGS. BIRTHS AND **FUNERALS**

MELANIE HENNESSEY

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mhennessey@metroland.com

It's safe to say that everyone's daily routine has been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

But for some local residents, the challenges of this dramatically different time will be etched in their story forever as they mark major life moments during the COVID-19 shutdown.

For Sarah Sikorski and her husband Daniel Spiteri, rolling with the punches of the pandemic has proven challenging as they simultaneously adjust to new parenthood.

They welcomed son Lincoln into the world on March 23 — a monumental occasion that has become more complex than usual with social distancing and service closures.

'We are navigating this new re-

ality the best we can, but it's been filled with a lot of tears and frustration," said Sikorski.

The Georgetown couple said they methodically planned to have a child by first making sure their finances were in order, their relationship was sound and their support system was in place.

"Despite our best efforts to do things in the most responsible way possible, the universe decided to play this cruel joke and throw an unpredictable pandemic into the mix," said Sikorski. "Now my husband's job is gone, we don't have access to community support programs like the standard newborn hearing testing, and my parents are meeting their first grandchild through FaceTime. Not to mention I'm in constant fear of the fact that my child with no immunity is at risk of contracting the virus."

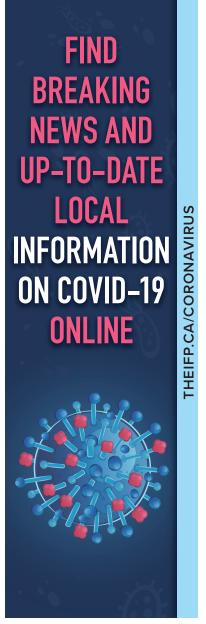
Supportive friends and family have helped ease the day-to-day burden for the new parents by dropping off food and diapers, and checking in with phone calls and texts.

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Sarah Sikorski photo

Sarah Sikorski and Daniel Spiteri, with baby Lincoln, are navigating the challenges of new parenthood during the pandemic.





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